



CENTER FOR IMPROVING
VALUE IN HEALTH CARE

Affordability Dashboard: Cost of Care

Definitions

Top Outpatient Spending Categories

Cardiac Catheterization: Cardiac catheterization lab and related facility service payments.

All Clinics: Includes hospital outpatient and freestanding clinic services for primary and specialty care.

Including Urgent Care clinics. Includes services provided at or by providers at a rural health clinic (RHC) or federally-qualified health center (FQHC).

Drugs (Total Rx): Drugs administered in a facility outpatient setting, including specialty, brand and generic drugs, vaccines and drugs used for diagnostic and imaging procedures. Does *not* include nuclear medicine pharmaceuticals.

Specialty Drugs (Specialty Rx): A subcategory of drugs (Total Rx) for specialty drugs used in facility outpatient settings. Does *not* include medication administration.

Emergency Department: Hospital-based ED services (attached or free-standing) for patients discharged from the ED. Does *not* include services for patients seen in the ED and subsequently admitted or transferred for outpatient surgery, cardiac catheterization or observation.

Home Health Care (Home Health/PT/OT/ST): Skilled care provided in the home, including nursing services, infusions and physical, speech and occupational therapy billed by home health agencies.

Total Diagnostic Imaging: Diagnostic imaging tests including x-rays and advanced imaging tests.

X-ray: A subcategory of imaging that includes plain films and fluoroscopy diagnostic imaging services.

Advanced Imaging: A subcategory of imaging that includes CTs, MRIs, PET scans, mammography, ultrasound, and nuclear diagnostic imaging services.

Lab: Lab services including chemistries, microbiology, and pathology.

Observation: Hospital services for patients admitted for observation without a hospital overnight stay. Does *not* include observation for outpatient surgery.

Other: Includes radiology/chemotherapy administration, hemodialysis, physical therapy. Does *not* include Medicaid long-term home health.

Surgery: Outpatient hospital surgical services and some ambulatory surgery facility services. Includes facility services for emergent and elective surgical care.

Hospital Urgent Care Services: Urgent care services that are provided in the hospital. **Does not include freestanding urgent care clinics or centers.**